

REMARKS

Applicants have amended independent claim 60 to include the phrase “wherein said first polypeptide is chemotactic for leukocytes.” Support for the amendment can be found in the specification as filed. More particularly, support can be found at page 21, last paragraph, and page 22, second paragraph. Hence, no new matter has been added by way of this amendment. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending objections and rejections in view of the following remarks.

Claims 35-54 and 60-70 are pending; claims 35-54 have been allowed. Applicants note that the Examiner indicated that the amendments of Paper No. 17 (filed July 3, 2002) were entered, but did not address the amendments filed at Examiner Prasad’s request on August 20, 2002. Applicants presume that the latter amendments were not entered, and do not request their entry now. Accordingly, consistent with the revised amendment practice, the listing of claims provided above includes all claims as presently pending.

I. Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging that the declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 filed by Applicants on April 21, 2003, is sufficient to preclude a rejection of the pending claims based on U.S. Patent No. 6,313,267, as discussed in the interview of October 21, 2002 (Paper No. 19).

II. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

The Examiner has rejected claims 60-70 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as allegedly not complying with the enablement or written description requirements. *See* Paper No. 22, pages 3-8.

Applicants respectfully disagree, and maintain that claims 60-70, as previously pending, complied with 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Applicants also note that the Examiner’s statements regarding fragments “comprising only 30 consecutive amino acids in the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2” do not appear to be relevant to the rejected claims, as no such language is present in claims 60-70.

However, as noted above, Applicants have amended independent claim 60 to include the phrase “wherein said first polypeptide is chemotactic for leukocytes.” Applicants believe that this amendment obviates the Examiner’s concerns, and that as amended, claim 60 (and thus dependent claims 61-70) fully comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 60-70 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph be reconsidered and withdrawn.

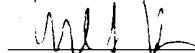
CONCLUSION

Entry of the above amendment is respectfully solicited. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the phone number provided below if any further action by Applicants would expedite the allowance of this application.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 08-3425. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, such an extension is requested and the appropriate fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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